Deaths due to Starvation

29. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been recent reports regarding human deaths due to starvation in various parts of the country particularly in Kalahandi District of Orissa and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the estimated number of human deaths as a result thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) No reports regarding human deaths due to starvation have been received from any of the State Governments.

Losses due to Heavy Rain in Andhra Pradesh

30. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 17th October, 1987, wherein it has been stated that 11 persons had died and at least 60 fishermen were missing due to the heavy rains that lashed most parts of Andhra Pradesh on 16th-17th October, 1987;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of lives and properties/crops as a result thereof; and

(c) whether Government have since provided any assistance to the victims and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No report in regard to the damage due to heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh on 16th-17th October, 1987 has been received from the State Government.

(c) The question of Central assistance would arise only if the State Government makes a request for the same.

Foodgrains supplied to Andhra Pradesh

31. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of foodgrains supplied recently to Andhra Pradsh State for the drought affected areas of that State;

(b) whether the foodgarins quota under this project is insufficient to meet the requirement of drought affected people of that State; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the quota for the drought affected people of that State and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) During the period July to November 1987, the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been allotted a total quantity of 5.80 lakh tonnes of rice and 1.05 lakh tonnes of wheat under the Public Distribution System. Distribution within the State including sub-allocation to different araeas, is the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) and (c) In response to requests received from the State Government for additional allocations, the allocation of rice for the month of November, 1987 has been raised from 1.10 lakh tonnes to the level of 1.40 lakh tonnes.